

SPONSOR'S  
VIEW:

Sen. Whitmire said that he assumes the Governor's reasons for the veto are correct and that the intent of his bill is the same as that of SB 109. The Harris County Commissioners Court, which asked Whitmire to carry SB 583, had not contacted Whitmire about the veto, he said.

Local retention of fees at state chest hospitals  
(SB 810, by Brooks)

DIGEST:

SB 810 would have exempted state chest hospitals from the State Funds Reform Act of 1981, thereby allowing them to retain and spend fees for physicians' services locally. Obsolete statutes for the establishment of a pilot program for the treatment of chronic respiratory disease would have been deleted.

GOVERNOR'S  
REASONS  
FOR VETO:

"This measure would allow the fees and charges collected by each state chest hospital for physicians' services to be exempt from the State Funds Reform Act of 1981. There is no compelling reason why these funds should not flow through the state treasury."

SPONSOR'S  
VIEW:

Sen. Brooks said local retention of fee income had given the chest hospitals "a significant way to improve quality medical services." He said while he had "no quarrel" with the Governor over the veto, he felt it demonstrated a lack of understanding by the Governor as to why the fee system had been set up with local control. The local fee money had been used to pay for travel, equipment, malpractice insurance and other hospital expenses. He said it would be up to the State Board of Health to decide whether or not to reintroduce the bill.